

Appl. No. 10/048,187
Amdt. Dated January 8, 2004
Reply to office Action of Nov. 5, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to provide appropriate section headings and to correct a number of errors, including correction of the statutory basis for the priority claim and correction of various drawing reference characters recited therein. A substitute abstract in proper form has been provided. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has indicated, however, that claims 1-9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as set forth in the November 5, 2003 Office Action.

Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice and new claims 10-20 which conform to current U.S. practice have been added to more clearly define the invention. New independent

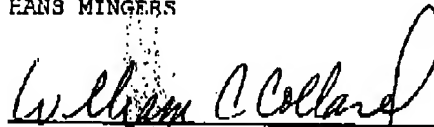
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claim 20 is similar to claim 10, however, claim 20 recites a
"bearing assembly" wherein claim 10 recites a "ball bearing
assembly" Applicant does not believe that the rewritten claims
narrow the scope of the invention as claimed.

Applicant believes that new claims 10-20 overcome the
rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and accordingly respectfully
requests early allowance of the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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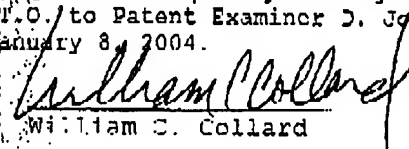
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Enclosure: Attachment A
WCC:ETC:kkw

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by
facsimile transmission to the U.S.P.T.O. to Patent Examiner D. Jones,
Group No. 3725, to 703 872 9302 on January 8, 2004.


William C. Collard

Patent Examiner MINGERS : OCT/2004 LDC CA, NY
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